IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 has been amended herein. Claim 40 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claim 41 has been entered. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A deployable truss comprising:

a plurality of column members connected at their ends to form a deployable truss that forms a rigid structure in a deployed state and that has a stowage volume less than its deployed volume in a collapsed state, wherein at least some of the plurality of column members comprise column assemblies including ~~a plurality of~~at least three strut members, each strut member of an associated column assembly being connected to each other strut member of the associated column assembly at a first end of the column assembly and at a second end of the column assembly.

2. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein strut members of a column assembly are substantially symmetrically arranged about a centerline of the column assembly.

3. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein strut members of a column assembly are further connected to each other at a location between the first and second ends of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

4. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 3, wherein the strut members of the column assembly are rigidly connected using a rigidizable resin.

5. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 4, wherein the rigidizable resin comprises a thermoplastic resin.

6. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 4, wherein the rigidizable resin comprises a UV curable resin.

7. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 3, wherein at least some of the strut members of the column assembly exhibit a substantially helical twist about a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly.

8. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each column assembly further comprises a spacer connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly at a location between the first end and the second end of the column assembly.

9. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer connects the strut member of the column assembly near a midpoint between the first and second ends of the column assembly.

10. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer is collapsible to a stowed configuration when the truss is in the collapsed state and expandable to a deployed configuration that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

11. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the spacer comprises a rigid spacer that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly a fixed distance in both the deployed and collapsed states.

12. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 11, wherein the spacer is substantially V-shaped.

13. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of strut members of the column assembly taper toward a centerline of the column assembly at the first end and the second end of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

14. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each column assembly further comprises a plurality of spacers connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly, each of the plurality of spacers connecting the plurality of strut members of the column assembly at a different location between the first end and the second end of the column assembly.

15. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein each spacer is collapsible to a stowed configuration when the truss is in the collapsed state and expandable to a deployed configuration that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state.

16. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein each spacer comprises a rigid spacer that radially spaces the plurality of strut members of the column assembly away from a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly a fixed distance in both the deployed and collapsed states.

17. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 16, wherein each spacer is substantially V-shaped.

18. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 17, wherein the spacer of each column assembly is arranged to permit nesting with the spacer of another column assembly when the truss is in the collapsed state.

19. (Withdrawn) The deployable truss according to claim 14, wherein the plurality of strut members of the column assembly taper toward a centerline of the column assembly at each of the first end and the second end of the column assembly when the truss is in its deployed state.

20. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein at least some of the plurality of strut members comprise tubes.

21. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of strut members comprises a rod.

22. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of strut members is formed from a continuous fiber reinforced composite material.

23. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 22, wherein the continuous fiber reinforced composite material comprises glass fibers.

24. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 22, wherein the continuous fiber reinforced composite material comprises graphite fibers.

25. (Previously presented) The deployable truss according to claim 1, wherein each of the column assemblies is tapered on at least one end.

26-40. (Cancelled)

41. (New) A deployable truss comprising:

a plurality of column members connected at their ends to form a deployable truss that forms a rigid structure in a deployed state and that has a stowage volume less than its deployed volume in a collapsed state, wherein at least some of the plurality of column members comprise column assemblies including a plurality of strut members, each strut member of an associated column assembly being connected to each other strut member of the associated column assembly at a first end of the column assembly and at a second end of the column assembly, wherein strut members of a column assembly are further connected to each other at a location between the first and second ends of the column assembly when the truss is in the deployed state, and wherein at least some of the strut members of the column assembly exhibit a substantially helical twist about a longitudinal centerline of the column assembly.